

WANTED

BY THE FBI

Black Hat Bandits
Virginia; Maryland

January 2, 2015; January 16, 2015; January 20, 2015; January 30, 2015; February 5, 2015; February 18, 2015;
February 18, 2015; March 2, 2015

UNKNOWN BANK ROBBERS



Jan. 2 Robbery in McLean, Va.



Jan. 16 Robbery in Fairfax, Va.



Jan. 20 Robbery in Vienna, Va.



Jan. 30 Robbery in Arnold, Md.

DESCRIPTION

Sex: Male

Remarks: The Black Hat Bandits consist of a three person crew: two who take over the bank and one who waits in a car. In an escalation of violence, the Black Hat Bandits have become more brazen at each robbery having threatened bank customers and tellers, even having held a gun to a customer's head, and jumping teller counters in attempts to gain access to bank vaults. During each robbery, the Black Hat Bandits have been described as carrying handguns and wearing winter coats, sunglasses, black hats (either a winter knit cap or wide-brimmed hat) and facial disguises such as ski masks or a fake beard.

Weapon Used: Handguns

CAUTION

The Black Hat Bandits are believed to be responsible for the following eight robberies committed between January 2 and March 2, 2015:

On Friday, January 2, 2015, at approximately 10:50 a.m., a White male robbed the Bank of America located at 1369 Chain Bridge Road in McLean, Virginia. The subject, wearing a partial facial disguise, entered the bank, brandished a weapon and robbed the bank.

On Friday, January 16, 2015, at approximately 3:17 p.m., two males entered the BB&T located at 8416 Arlington Blvd., in Fairfax, Virginia, and robbed the bank. One of the subjects brandished a firearm and demanded money from the tellers. The subjects fled on foot and entered a parking garage behind the bank.

On Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at approximately 2:53 p.m., two males entered the Bank of America located at 235 Maple Avenue West in Vienna, Virginia, and robbed the bank. Both subjects brandished weapons. One subject demanded money from the bank tellers. The subjects fled on foot to a nearby vehicle headed in the direction of Church Street.

On Friday, January 30, 2015, two men robbed the Essex Bank located at 1460 Ritchie Highway in Arnold, Maryland. Both subjects entered the bank carrying handguns. One robber was wearing a dark overcoat, sunglasses, a wide-brimmed black hat, a long fake beard and scarf. The other robber was wearing a dark ski jacket, white and black scarf covering his face and dark pants. After robbing the tellers, the subjects fled the bank in a nearby vehicle.

On Thursday, February 5, 2015, a white male subject entered the SunTrust Bank located at 3070 Leonardtown Road in Waldorf, Maryland, carrying a handgun. The subject was wearing a dark overcoat, sunglasses, a wide brimmed black hat, long fake beard and scarf. Witnesses described him as being about 5'8' tall, in his early-to-mid forties. The robber took the case from the teller and fled to a nearby vehicle.

On Wednesday, February 18, 2015, at approximately 3:12 pm, two subjects robbed a BB&T Bank located at 440 East Maple Avenue in Vienna, Virginia. Subject one was described as White male wearing all black with a black mask covering his face. Subject two was described as a Black male wearing all black with a black mask covering his face. Both subjects were carrying handguns. Forty minutes later at 3:56 pm, the two subjects robbed the Wells Fargo Bank located at 47040 Community Plaza in Sterling, Virginia. The subjects were again described as wearing black ski masks and all black clothing. One of the suspects put his gun to a customer's head while demanding everyone to "get down," and demanded money from a victim teller. In both robberies the subjects fled the banks with an undisclosed amount of money.

On Monday, March 02, 2015, at approximately 12:44 pm, the Black Hat Bandits robbed the Wells Fargo Bank located at 1000 W. Broad St., in Falls Church, Virginia. The two subjects were armed and described as males in their early forties between 5'7" and 5'9" in height. Both subjects were dressed in all black with black ski masks covering their faces. There were no injuries sustained.

REWARD

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$30,000 for information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction of these bank robbers.

SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

The FBI Washington and Baltimore Field Offices are investigating these bank robberies with local law enforcement partners in Northern Virginia and Maryland and request that anyone with information call the FBI at 202-278-2000 or 410-265-8080. To see a listing of bank robbers wanted by the FBI visit <https://bankrobbers.fbi.gov/>.

If you have any information concerning this case, please contact your local FBI Office or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate. You can also submit a tip at: tips.fbi.gov

Field Office: Baltimore, Washington